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would suffice for justice to be done, and who
was cruelly
punished for his delusion. In like way Colonel Picquart,
in reward for his scrupulousness and
respectfulness, was
covered with mud by his superiors. "One even
saw this
ignoble thing," said Zola, referring to Colonel
Picquart, " a
French tribunal, after allowing the prosecuting
counsel to
heap charges on a witness, to accuse him
1 5
kind of transgression, ordered the court to be
cleared directly
that witness was called in to explain and
defend himself.
I declare that this is one crime the more, a
crime which
will rouse the public conscience. Decidedly, the
military
tribunals have a strange idea of justice!"
Then after a final appeal to President Faure,
who if he
were the prisoner of the Constitution and his
entourage,
still had to discharge the duties of a man,
Zola declared
that he in no wise despaired of triumph, for
truth was on
the march and nothing would stop it. The Affair
was only
beginning. On one side were the guilty who
wished to
withhold the light; on the other the servants of
justice who
would lay down their lives in order that it
might appear.
When truth was buried underground, it
gathered strength
there, acquired such explosive force that on
3
it blew up everything. One would see, then, if
present
secrecy had not prepared the most resounding
of disasters for some future date. And Zola concluded:
ton compostitions data A-a-a /al-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-

"I accuse Lieutenant-Colonel du Paty de having Clam of been the diabolical author of the judicial error, unconsciously Iam willing to believe, and of having defended his three baleful work for years culpable the most absurd and machinations. Ι accuse General Mercier of having rendered himself an accomplice, at least through want of firmness, in one of the greatest iniquities of the century.